

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Governance Committee Minutes
Courtyard Marriott, Federal Way
November 15, 2007**

Present

Sara McQueed (Committee Chair), John Lemus, Shannon Patton, Brenda Anderson, Larry Moss

Guests

None

Staff

Ed Holen, Autumn Dryden

Adjustments to the Agenda

There were none.

Minutes

John moved and Shannon seconded to approve the September minutes as written. The motion carried.

Big Picture Work Plan

The Big Picture Work Plan was discussed. Ed gave an overview of what the Plan is and how it is used to illustrate the Council's performance.

Designated State Agency

Ed reviewed the current relationship between the Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) and Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED). He explained the requirement for the DDC to be associated with a state agency and the current pros and cons of being under CTED.

The current proposal is to have the DDC named as its own state agency and be administered by Home Care Quality Authority (HCQA). The HCQA has a similar mission to the DDC. This change will allow the DDC to receive services from the Small Agency Client Services of the Office of Financial Management (OFM). They will provide accounting, budgeting and payroll services to the Council.

If the agency affiliation is approved, it may be finalized by June 2008. The Developmental Disabilities Life Opportunities Trust (DDLOT) is expected to move with the DDC.

Policy 404 Council Budget Development Process

Ed reviewed the proposed policy amendments.

Motion: John moved to remove item number seven and present the updated policy to the full council for a vote at the January 2008 Council meeting. Shannon seconded. The motion carried.

Policy: Rights of Parents who have developmental disabilities:

John presented the concern of high functioning parents with disabilities having their children taken away automatically after the child is born. The children are being removed without the option of being returned to the parents. On the contrary, parents with a drug abuse history have the opportunity to have their children returned.

The Committee discussed the possibility of developing a policy that would allow the Council to provide support and training for parents with disabilities and allow for the opportunity to regain custody of their children. Idaho has a similar policy now. John will conduct further research to find out 1) what currently triggers the removal of a child in Washington and 2) what the Idaho policy entails. Information will be presented at the January 2008 meeting.

Policy: Stipends for Council Members

Ed explained that federal law allows the Council to pay a stipend to a council member who attends a meeting and has to forfeit their salary in order to attend the meeting. In order for this to occur, the Council must pass a policy.

The following questions were raised:

1. How would the Council determine if the stipend should be paid?
2. How would the payment be reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)?
3. How many members need or want the stipend?

Further discussion was tabled.

Council's Mission Statement

The discussion of the Council's mission statement was tabled until the January meeting.

Report to Council

The workgroup:

- Reviewed the Big Picture work plan.
- Was updated by Ed on changing the council's state agency.
- Voted on council budget development policy and will take it to the full council in January

- Discussed creating a policy regarding parents with disabilities. John is researching this further.

January Meeting Agenda

- Policy for Parents with Disabilities
- Update on Designated Agency
- Mission Statement

With that the meeting was adjourned.